

Belgian-American Days kicks off July 31

By Scott Thoma
scott@thomabooks.com

Ghent will be celebrating its Belgian heritage and America's 250th anniversary with its 74th annual Belgian-American Days July 31-Aug. 1. This year's schedule of events promises something for everyone. To help celebrate the country's semiquincennial, the annual .05K race in which participants dress up in that year's theme, will be held

at 7:30 on Friday night (Aug. 31). Prizes will be given to the best patriotic wear. Also on Friday will be the Little Miss Ghent coronation, No-so-Newlywed Game, pedal tractor pull, softball tournament, and music from Rock It Man Dueling Pianos at 8 p.m. Saturday's lineup goes throughout the entire day and night. A 3-on-3 basketball tournament begins at 9 a.m. in the hockey rink, and the street dance with Pop Rocks begins at 9 p.m. In between, a myriad of events, games, food and

entertainment will fill the day. Rolle Bolle brings participants from all over the region and parts of Canada. There will be a Calcutta Division, A & B Divisions, and a Novice Division. The Ghent Car Cruisers is another annual event that brings people in from all over with vintage cars, trucks, motorcycles and tractors. The awards ceremony will begin at 2:30 p.m. on McQuestion Street. Little Explorers Child Care Center will again

host its Kiddie Carnival in the park with many games and prizes for the kids from 10 a.m. to noon. There will also be inflatables and a petting zoo in the park. Beginning at 1 p.m., Kayla Daniels is being brought back by popular demand and will entertain those in attendance. The Grande Parade will begin at 4:30 p.m. Following the parade, the Ghent Fire Department wil host its annual Burger Feed at the station beginning at 5 p.m.



Ben Derynck putts on the final hole of the tournament on Sunday, winning the Wynston Boe Championship Flight by six strokes It was the Minneota native's second time winning this tournament. Mascot photo by Scott Thoma

Derynck captures Boe golf tourney title for 2nd time

Halvorson is Women's champion; 84 golfers compete

By Scott Thoma
scott@thomabooks.com

After Ben Derynck wrapped up his impressive six-stroke win at the 56th annual Wynston Boe Memorial Golf Tournament on Sunday, he was asked what led to his win. "I was able to get myself out of trouble a few times," he said. "After 25 years, I've finally learned to play smart." Derynck held a four-shot lead over Jake Wagner entering the third and final round. "I went into more of a match play mentality," said Derynck. "Just try not to do too much and try to hit greens in regulation and miss in the right spots." Derynck became a two-time champion at this tournament named after the former longtime clubhouse manager.



Rachel Halvorson

After shooting a 38 in the first round, Derynck found himself tied with two others, all who trailed Wagner by one shot. A second-round 32 gave Derynck a four-shot lead af-

ter Wagner carded a 37. Bryan Francis, who played in the final group, was tied with Taylor Olsen, each with a 77 after two rounds. I love this course to death," said Derynck, a 2004 Minneota High School graduate. "It's my favorite weekend of the year. It's so nice to come home and everyone comes back to play here. Derynck is a fifth-grade teacher and assistant football coach at Madison (SD) Central. He also won the tournament in 2021 and finished third last year. Last year's champion, Carson Boe of Cottonwood, did not defend his title. There were 84 total golfers in the field this year, including eight in the women's flight.

Golf Continued on Page 8

MEET THE BOXELDER BUG DAYS QUEEN CANDIDATES

Each week the Mascot will feature one of the eight Boxelder Bug Days queen candidates.



Alexa Mead

Parents' names: Tony and Julie Mead
Sponsor: Vortex Ag

Queen Continued on Page 3

Dalager debuts with Willmar Stingers of Northwoods League

Hard-throwing right-hander was pitching for Mudhens this summer

By Scott Thoma
scott@thomabooks.com

When Ryan Dalager got a text from his coach at Southwest Minnesota State University asking if would be interested in joining the Willmar Stinger of the Northwoods League, the Minneota native didn't realize the elite company he was joining. Dalager, a hard-throwing right-hander, was coasting along on the mound this season for the Minneota Mudhens, allowing just five earned runs in 32 2/3 innings, while striking out 56. The text came last week from Jeremy Ische. The Stingers needed another pitcher and searched for someone fairly local. When SMSU was asked by the Stingers' organization if Mustangs had a player that could help them this summer, Ische recommended Dalager. Dalager agreed to join the Stingers and got a call from field manager Freddy Smith to verify his decision and to go over details. Wearing number 19, Dalager took to the mound for the first time with the Stingers in a start Thursday, July 16 against the Bismack Larks. Dalager made 17 appearances out of the bullpen for SMSU this season and all but one of his eight appearances this summer with the Mudhens came in relief. The Stingers chose to start Dalager for his first game of the season. Although the debut didn't go as well as he had hoped, Dalager got his foot in the door in an elite league that others wish they could enter. Dalager gave up eight hits and six earned runs in four innings. He walked three and struck out four in front of nearly 800 fans that included his parents, grandparents and girlfriend. "I like starting, but know I can do better than that," said Dalager. "I wasn't necessarily nervous as much as I was excited. I hadn't pitched in almost a week." Of the eight hits Dalager allowed, six came on ground balls and only one was hard hit. To play in the Northwood League, a player must be a current college baseball player who still has NCAA eligibility remaining.



Ryan Dalager made his first start for the Stingers July 16 in Willmar. Contributed photo

This means the player must be enrolled in college and not have completed all four years of eligibility. "I knew a little bit about the league, but not a lot," Dalager admitted. "After I was asked to join the Stingers, I looked things up online."

Dalager Continued on Page 3

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Minneota Memory

This is the 1946 class of District #77 School in Nordland Township. Front row, left to right: Conrad Heggeseeth, Arlon Johnson, Gene Fodness, Carol Mikelson, Lorraine Johnson, Clarice Kompelien, Darlene Burthus, Doretta Huso. Back row, left to right: Dennis Johnson, Raymond Coequet, Walter Coequet, Teacher's name not available, Mavis Johnson, Marilyn Mikelson, Marlyn Kompelien.

Yesteryear

From the Mascot files 100, 75, 50 & 25 years ago

100 Years Ago (July 23, 1926)

Mascot completes 35th year of its existence

With this issue, the Minneota Mascot completed the 35th year of its existence as a local weekly newspaper. The Mascot began publication in July of 1891.

Threatening weather doesn't deter Community Theatre-goers

Despite threatening weather, the free movie put on by the local Woodmen camp at the Community Theatre was well attended. Entertaining pictures were shown. Also, J.W. Galt, of the state Woodmen organization delivered a lecture.

Band concerts attracting large crowds from all over

The regular Saturday night band concerts here are attracting large crowds from all over this section. The band, under the direction of Professor W.W. Davey of Lake Benton, has made rapid progress and their performances are coming up to the most exacting standards.

Temperature reaches 104 degrees last Friday locally

Weather for nearly a week has been oppressively hot in this area. A reliable reading of the temperature showed the mercury reaching 104 degrees last Friday. Occasional showers, with a fairly good rain in the middle of the week, relived the situation considerably. Small grain was ripened fast by the scorching heat, but the lack of moisture is considered a decisive setback for growing corn.

75 Years Ago (July 27, 1951)

155 people donate 127 pints of blood at Legion

The basement of the Minneota Legion building was transformed into a hospital on Tuesday when the Red Cross mobile unit set up a dozen beds, tables and other equipment for the purpose of drawing blood from Minneota residents. A total of 127 pints were donated by 155 people. This is slightly less than last year when 155 pints were given. Fruit juice, coffee, donuts and cookies were served to all blood

donors. A noon meal of ham O'Brien, relishes and pie was served to the voluntary employees.

Swinging branches to blame for local blackout

When the lights of Minneota blacked out for 45 minutes between 2 and 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Otter Tail Power Company repairmen had a three-fold difficulty to overcome. According to the power plant here, branches of trees, fanned by winds, caused a short in wires near the sub-station. This, in turn, blew out two high-voltage fuses. Employees of the plant located the short, trimmed trees, and replaced fuses.

Minneota loses playoffs to Cottonwood in 12 innings

Scoring two runs in the top of the 12th inning Wednesday evening, Cottonwood's ball club defeated Minneota and took the first round of the Big Six playoff series by a 3 to 1 score. Cottonwood will now meet Canby in the second round. Ghent's team, which defeated Porter last Sunday, drew a bye for the second round.

50 Years Ago (July 22, 1976)

Present drought similar to summer of 1936 here

It seems that the crops of this summer and the summer of 1936 are mighty similar in every regard due to a lack of moisture for several weeks. The drought of 1936 left corn almost totally dried up around this area and not a bushel of corn will be harvested. Some farmers say that they intend to begin cutting corn with grain binders in an attempt to save what they can.

Redeyes capture softball tournament title in Marshall

The local Redeye softball team won first place in the softball tournament July 17-18 in Marshall. A total of 16 teams competed in the double-elimination tournament. The Redeyes defeated Ranny's Men's Center of Willmar 19-13 in the championship game and took home \$150 and a trophy.

Minneota firemen alerted to tractor fire on Laleman farm

The Minneota Fire Department received a call to the David Laleman farm around

6:45 p.m. last Thursday evening when a tractor there had overturned and a fire had been ignited. When the firemen arrived on the scene, the fire had already been extinguished.

Josefson files for another term as state senator

State Senator J.A. Josefson of Minneota filed his affidavit of candidacy last Thursday morning. In launching his campaign for another term, Josefson said he would continue to spend as much time as possible meeting with the people of the district to learn their concerns.

25 Years Ago (July 25, 2001)

Minneota's first wildlife area to be dedicated by Hendricks

Minneota's first Wildlife Management Area will be dedicated on July 28. Purchased in 1953 by the State Department of Conservation (now the Department of Natural Resources), the Kvernmo WMA is located southeast of Hendricks in Lincoln County. The 83-acre tract was purchased from the Kvernmo family under the Save the Wetlands program which eventually evolved into today's state WMA system.

Bloodmobile goal reached with 82 pints collected here

The Minneota area pulled together to help the American Red Cross when their bloodmobile came to town on July 19. There were 100 people presenting at the bloodmobile, with 15 deferred and three incompletes for a total of 82 pints. The goal was 75 pints. Jerry Traen became a 4-gallon donor. The American Legion, Bethel Fellowship Church, Hemnes Lutheran Church, the Lions Club, Taunton State Bank, Schott Corporation, and the GMT Women of Today all had a hand in the success of the bloodmobile.

Vlaminck Electric celebrates 25th year being in business

Vlaminck Electric of Porter is celebrating 25 years of business, and they are hosting an Open House for all of their customers, family and friends on Aug. 4. Pat and Phyllis Vlaminck are the working partnership of Vlaminck Electric. They are both graduates of Minneota High School.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Parents of Teens in Our Community

To the Editor:

The teenage years bring incredible growth, but they can also bring challenges that leave families feeling unsure of where to turn. Many teens today are navigating intense school stress, pressure to perform, and the constant comparison that comes with social media. Others are quietly struggling with anxiety, depression, or emotional overwhelm. Some may experiment with substances or face peer influences that worry the adults who care about them.

If any of this feels familiar, you are not alone. These issues are far more common than most families realize, and no parent should feel they have to manage them in isolation.

Our parent support group was created to offer a safe, judgment free space to talk openly about the realities of raising teens today. We share experiences, learn from one another, and offer encouragement through the difficult moments — whether it's supporting a teen's mental health, addressing substance concerns, or helping them cope with academic pressure.

There is no commitment and no expectation. Just a community of parents who understand what you're facing and are ready to listen.

If you've been searching for connection, guidance, or simply reassurance that you're not alone in this journey, we welcome you to meet with us on Saturday the 25th at noon at 366 George Street, community room, Ivanhoe MN.

Safe Place,
Jerry Bottelberghe, LPC
Minneota, MN

Demuth not typical politician

To the Editor:

Lisa Demuth is by far the best choice for Governor in the Aug. 11 Republican primary. She has proven that she is a determined and effective champion for our conservative values.

As Minnesota House Speaker, she stopped Tim Walz and the Democrats time and again. Her leadership blocked further tax increases, forced a \$5 billion reduction in state spending, and defended gun owners' rights.

Most importantly, Lisa has been fighting fraud in government programs since she first came to the Legislature. Her first bill as a new legislator required daycare centers receiving child-care subsidies to stop fraud by recording and reporting attendance.

As Speaker last year, she formed the first-ever Fraud Prevention and Oversight Committee. That body has grilled top Walz commissioners and provided a platform for whistleblowers to document the billions of fraud that have been stolen from us. This year, Lisa led the charge to create an independent Office of Inspector General with serious law enforcement power to fight fraud.

Lisa is not your typical politician. She has been fearless in a political environment that requires courage under fire. She will make a great governor because she is a proven fighter and winner. She's also the only Republican candidate who can beat Amy Klobuchar and the DFL this November. Please join me in voting for Lisa Demuth for governor on Aug. 11.

Anita Runck
Lamberton, MN

Referendum not frivolous ideas

To the Editor:

I am a widow and I own a home in the Minneota School District. I was concerned about the cost and the need concerning the upcoming Minneota Schools Referendum. I attended the informational meeting last Wednesday at the school to find out the facts. Attending this meeting were members of the community, the elementary and high school principals, maintenance staff, school board members and the planning consultants. We were informed of the crucial needs of the infrastructure to extend the life of our building. These included mechanical, electrical, and interior and exterior maintenance and improvements. Also presented were proposals for the improvement of the learning/athletic/fine arts environment for the students.

These are not frivolous ideas, but very well collaborated approaches from school staff, administration, school board and community input. The real beneficiaries are the students as we invest in providing quality teaching and safe learning environments. This will also benefit our whole community as this will attract and retain students, staff, and families.

The new plans are fiscally responsible solutions with good possibilities of better property values. I will be voting yes on both questions on the ballot on Aug. 11. I encourage you to do the same as we invest in meeting the infrastructure and educational needs of our students.

Charlene Tillemans
Minneota, MN



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Notice to Voters

August 11, 2026

Primary Election

I Will Vote

Review the information below to learn about upcoming elections.

Access Your Sample Ballot	Find Your Polling Place	Additional Election Information
Your official ballot will have the names of all candidates for your precinct. To see a list of the names of candidates and questions that will be on the ballot for your precinct visit: mnvotes.gov/myballot You may also be able to view your sample ballot online by scanning:  You may request to have a free copy of your sample ballot mailed to you.	Election Day is Tuesday, August 11, 2026 You can find your Election Day Polling Place by visiting: mnvotes.gov/pollfinder Voting Before You can vote early with an absentee ballot starting Friday, June 26. You can vote early by mail, in person, or from the military or abroad. Learn more by scanning: 	Election Day Polling Places are open 7am to 8pm. You may live in a precinct where a ballot is mailed to you as a mail ballot voter. If voting by mail, return your ballot no later than 8pm on Election Day. Election results will be available starting after 8pm on Election Day at: www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/election-results Check to see if you are pre-registered to vote by scanning: 

Contact Your Local Election Official

Your county election official:

• Can mail you a sample ballot for free

• Keeps your voter registration record

• Handles other parts of the voting process

Election official: John Xiong

General phone: 507-537-6724

Website: www.lyonco.org

Email: elections@co.lyon.mn.us

607 W. Main Street

Marshall, MN 56258



July

Thursday, July 23
10 a.m. - "Exercise" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "Bingo" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - Quilting at Senior Center

Friday, July 24
TBD - Junior Legion Baseball, sub-state playoffs
12:45 p.m. - "Bien" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "500" at Senior Center

Saturday July 25
4 p.m. - Amateur Baseball: Clinton at Minneota, Fan Appreciation Night

Monday, July 27
1 p.m. - "Mahjong" at Senior Center

Tuesday, July 28
10 a.m. - "Exercise" at Senior Center
12:45 p.m. - "Bien" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "500" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - Quilting at Senior Center
6 p.m. - Junior Legion Baseball: Substate playoffs

Wednesday, July 29
1 p.m. - "Hand, Knee & Foot" at Senior Center

Thursday, July 30
10 a.m. - "Exercise" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "Bingo" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - Quilting at Senior Center

Friday, July 31
12:45 p.m. - "Bien" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "500" at Senior Center
5 p.m. - Junior Legion Baseball: Substate playoffs

August

Saturday, August 1
11 a.m. - Junior Legion Baseball: Substate playoffs

Monday, August 3
1 p.m. - "Mahjong" at Senior Center

Tuesday, August 4
10 a.m. - Lyon County Board meeting, Marshall
10 a.m. - "Exercise" at Senior Center
12:45 p.m. - "Bien" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "500" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - Quilting at Senior Center

Wednesday, August 5
1 p.m. - "Hand, Knee & Foot" at Senior Center

Thursday, August 6
10 a.m. - "Exercise" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "Bingo" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - Quilting at Senior Center

Friday, August 7
12:45 p.m. - "Bien" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "500" at Senior Center



Napa Cabbage Slaw

Having a cold salad eliminates the need to turn on the stove or oven and heating up the kitchen on a hot summer day. The chow mein noodles and snow peas gives a pleasant crunch to this colorful slaw.

Ingredients

- 4 cups chopped napa or Chinese cabbage
- 1 can (11 ounces) mandarin oranges, drained
- 1 can (8 ounces) sliced water chestnuts, drained
- 1 cup fresh snow peas, trimmed and cut into thirds
- 1/2 cup chopped sweet red pepper
- 1 green onion, chopped
- 1/4 cup sesame ginger salad dressing
- 1/2 cup chow mein noodles

Directions

In a large bowl, combine the cabbage, mandarin oranges, water chestnuts, snow peas, red pepper, and green onion. Drizzle with the dressing and toss to coat. Just before serving, sprinkle with chow mein noodles.



July 6 - Assist other Agency
July 7 - Traffic Stop (400 block 1st Street)
July 7 - Traffic Stop (Washington/1st)
July 8 - Fireworks Complaint
July 10 - Lock out
July 11 - Traffic Stop (Jefferson/Century)
July 13 - Permit to Purchase
July 14 - Suspicious 911
July 14 - Damage to Property (No Crime)
July 14 - Scam call
July 16 - Traffic Stop (Washington/4th)
July 16 - Assist other Agency
July 16 - Suspicious 911
July 18 - Driving Complaint
July 20 - Suspicious 911

LYON COUNTY MUSEUM

Ohman to present "America 250" July 29

Doug Ohman will present "America 250" at the Lyon County Museum at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 29.

Enjoy an historic journey with storyteller/historian, Doug Ohman as he shares stories and photos that help tell the amazing tale of America's birth. Doug will focus on the men and women who were the visionaries for our great country in its earliest beginnings. The rich story of America will entertain and inspire each of us and help us appreciate the country we call home.

Doug Ohman has spent the past 30 + years photographing historic architecture and landscapes in Minnesota. His work has been featured in books, magazines and calendars. Doug has spent the last twenty years selling photography art at local art & craft shows.

Along with being an independent photographer, Doug is also a historian and public speaker. His focus has been Minnesota history. He gives public presentations to over 300 groups per/year and has been the featured host of eight PBS television programs. His program: Landmarks – Keeping history alive, was nominated for a PBS Emmy in 2019.

The program is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served. Programs at the Lyon County Museum are sponsored by members.

For more information, contact the Lyon County Museum at 507-537-6580.

Family History program set for Aug. 3

Sarah Lockwood will be presenting a program entitled "Family History: Face or Fiction?" at 1:30 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 3.

Our family histories can be compiled from many different sources. Some information passes down by word of mouth, some can be authenticated by certificates or other documentation, and some can be gleaned from others' work.

Learn how to polish your family history to become a verifiable and accurate source of which you can be proud.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SUBMIT AN ITEM FOR THE COMMUNITY CALENDAR, CALL 507-872-6492 or email www.minneotamascot.com

– Minneota Area Community Churches –

Healing Waters Parish

Augustana, Clarkfield; Bergen, Clarkfield; St. Lucas Lutheran, Cottonwood

Worship Times:
St. Lucas: Sunday Worship at 11 a.m.
Augustana: Wednesday Worship at 6:30 p.m.
Bergen: Sunday Worship at 9 a.m.

Pastor Mort Meyenburg
Church Contact No. 320-841-1085

Yellow Medicine Lutheran Church

PO Box 119, 101 Main Street, Hanley Falls
www.yellowmedicinelutheran.org

Worship Time: All Sunday services are in-person and also live-streamed at 10:30 a.m. Sundays on Facebook (visit Yellow Medicine Lutheran Church). Please watch the website and Facebook for more information.
Sunday, July 19: Worship at 11 a.m.

Church Contact No. 507-768-3417
Pastor Steve Quist: 507-337-0068
Tim Velde, Lay Minister: 507-828-5343

St. Leo Catholic Church

St. Leo, MN
Mass Time: Sundays at 8:30 a.m.
Fr. Brendan Rolling & Fr. Keith Salisbury
Church Contact No. 507-224-2289

Bethany-Elim Lutheran, Ivanhoe

Worship Time: Sundays at 9 a.m. with Sunday School

Bethany Lutheran, Arco

Worship Time: Sundays at 10:45 a.m.

Church Contact No. 507-694-1238
windsministry@gmail.com

Hope Lutheran Church

Minneota
www.hopeminneota.org

Worship Time:
Sunday, July 26: Worship at 9 a.m.

Minister: Jennifer Warnock: 320-305-4955
Church Secretary, Chris Pesch:
hopelutheran87@gmail.com
Church Contact No. 507-872-6446

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Minneota

Worship Time: Sunday, July 26: 10:30 a.m.

Minister: Jennifer Warnock: 320-305-4955
Church Secretary: Chris Pesch
hopelutheran87@gmail.com
Church Contact No. 507-872-6446

St. Eloï Catholic Church

Ghent

Mass Times:
Thursday, July 23: Noon Mass at Convent
Friday, July 24: Noon Mass at Convent
Saturday, July 25: Noon Mass at Convent
Sunday, July 26: Mass at 10:30 a.m.

Father Todd Petersen
Church Contact No. 507-428-3285

Hemnes Lutheran Church

Rural Minneota

Worship Time: Sundays at 8:30 a.m.
Pastor Ellen Munter

Bethel Fellowship Church

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Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.; Sunday School 8:50-9:45 a.m.
Wednesdays: Kids' Zone 6-7:20 p.m.; Prayer and Devotional 7:30 p.m.

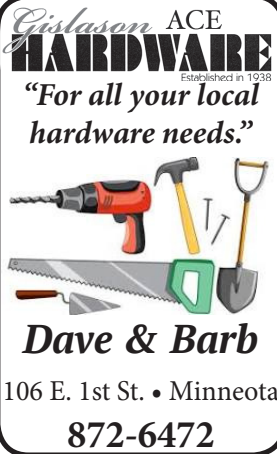
Pastor Thomas Nomeland
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St. Edward Catholic Church

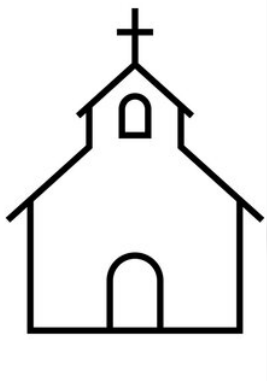
Minneota

Mass Time:
Thursday, July 23: Mass at 7 a.m.
Thursday, July '23: Adoration from 5-7 p.m.
Saturday, July 25: Mass at 5:30 p.m.
Sunday, July 26: Mass at 8:30 a.m.

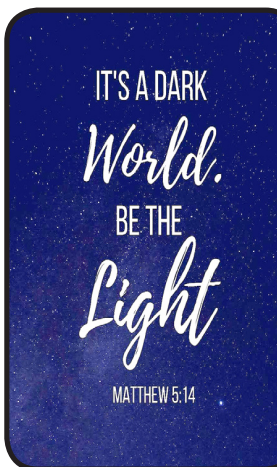
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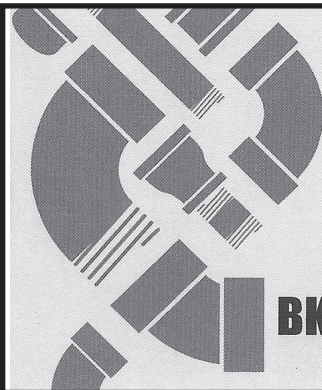
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City of Taunton Ordinance

ORDINANCE #R07152026B

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 92 of the Taunton City Ordinances.

The Council of the City of Taunton ordains as follows:

A new Section 92.18 (U) is added as follows:

(U) Inoperable Motor Vehicles

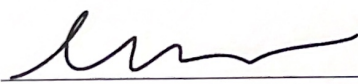
(1) It shall be unlawful to keep, park, store or abandon any motor vehicle which is not in operating condition, partially dismantled, used for repair or parts or as a source of repair or replacement parts for other vehicles, kept for scrapping, dismantling or salvage of any kind, or which is not properly licensed for operation with the state, pursuant to M.S. § 168B.011, Subd. 3, as it may be amended from time to time.

(2) This section does not apply to a motor vehicle enclosed in a building and/or which is temporarily located on commercial property for purposes of seeking the repair or restoration of that vehicle by an automobile repair business. Nothing in this subdivision, however, permits an auto repair business to accumulate inoperable vehicles on its premises which are not actively being repaired or which are kept for parts.

(3) Any motor vehicles described in this section constitute a hazard to the health and welfare of the residents of the community in that such vehicles can harbor noxious diseases, furnish a shelter and breeding place for vermin and present physical danger to the safety and well-being of children and citizens; and vehicles containing fluids which, if released into the environment, can and do cause significant health risks to the community.

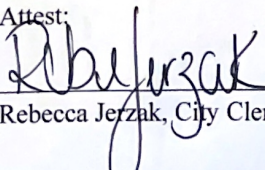
The existing subparagraph (U) is re-lettered to be subparagraph (V) but shall otherwise remain unchanged.

Passed by the Council this 15th day of July, 2026.



Eriann Faris, Mayor

Attest:



Rebecca Jezzak, City Clerk

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Obituaries

Rev. Joseph Hennen

1940-2026



The Funeral Mass for Rev. Joseph Hennen will be on at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, July 23, 2026, at Madonna Towers Chapel, (4001 19th Ave NW Rochester, MN) with Fr. Thomas Gross and Fr. Thomas Hentges officiating. Visitation will be held from 9 a.m. until the Mass, at Madonna Towers.

Burial will be at a later date in St. Eloi Cemetery, Ghent, MN alongside his parents.

Father Hennen, age 85, died on July 17, 2026, at Madonna Towers in Rochester. He was born on Sept. 18, 1940, to Arnold and Emma Hennen of rural Ghent, MN, and was one of six children.

Father Joe attended St. Eloi Grade School in Ghent and Central Catholic High School in Marshall, MN. His post-secondary

education included Crosier Seminary, Onamia, MN; St. Francis University, Fort Wayne, IN; Crosier House of Studies Fort Wayne, IN; Catholic University, Washington, D .C.; and New Rochelle College, New Rochelle, NY. He achieved Master's degrees in Theology, Psychology, Substance Abuse Counseling and Family and Marriage Counseling. After ordination to the priesthood on June 3, 1967, he was Formation Director and later Prior-Rector of the Theology School, Crosier House of Studies, Ft. Wayne, IN. He served as Chaplain at Lincoln Hall, Sommers, NY, Family Therapist at LaSalle School for Court-Referred Boys, Albany, NY. He served as a Psychologist at Daytop Village, Millbrook, NY(a center for adolescent substance abuse) and founder of Daytop New Jersey in the state of NJ, as well as Vice President of Our Common Ground, Redwood City, CA.

He was pastor of St. Stephen Parish, Anoka, MN and pastor of Milia Puka O Kalani, Hilo, HI. In 2006 he became a priest of the Diocese of Honolulu, HI. After retirement in 2014, he became Administrator of the parishes of Harmony, Canton, and Mabel, MN within the Diocese of Winona. In 2017, after a serious illness, he moved to Madonna Towers Rochester where he enjoyed celebrating Mass for the residents. Over the years, he assisted in many parishes in the Fort Wayne Diocese, the New York Archdiocese, Honolulu Diocese, St. Paul Archdiocese, and the Winona Diocese.

Father Joe was an influential priest who positively affected

many lives. He was known for his inspiring homilies, sharp wit, and genuine care.

Father Joe is survived by his brothers, Ernest of Marshall, Daniel (Judy) of Marshall, Robert (Cara) of Orlando, FL; sister, Jeannie (Ken) Saffert of Mankato, MN; and his sister-in-law Mary Joan Hennen of Marshall. Many nieces, nephews, and cousins also survive him.

He is preceded in death by his parents, his brother John, and his sister-in-law Jane Hennen.

Harold Stienessen
1934-2026

Mass of Christian Burial for Harold Stienessen, 92, of Minneota, will take place at 10 a.m. on Saturday, July 25, 2026, at St. Edward Catholic Church in Minneota. Visitation will be held on Friday, July 24, 2026, from 4-7 p.m. with a Prayer Service at 7 p.m. at the Horvath Remembrance Center in Minneota. Visitation will continue on Saturday from 9-10 a.m. at St. Edward Catholic Church. Interment with military honors will follow the service at St. Edward Catholic Cemetery in Minneota.

Harold died on Monday, July 20, 2026, at the Sanford Canby Medical Center in Canby, MN.

Minneota Public School Notice

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 414
(MINNEOTA PUBLIC SCHOOLS), MINNESOTA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a special election has been called and will be held in and for Independent School District No. 414 (Minneota Public Schools), Minnesota (the "School District"), on Tuesday, August 11, 2026, for the purpose of voting on the following questions:

SCHOOL DISTRICT QUESTION 1
APPROVAL OF SCHOOL BUILDING BONDS

Shall the school board of Independent School District No. 414 (Minneota Public Schools), Minnesota, be authorized to issue general obligation school building bonds in an amount not to exceed \$13,100,000 to provide funds for the acquisition and betterment of school sites and facilities including, but not limited to, infrastructure improvements comprised of mechanical, electrical, exterior and interior deferred maintenance items, educational space renovations and improvements, and classroom and breakout learning space additions?

BY VOTING "YES" ON THIS BALLOT QUESTION,
YOU ARE VOTING FOR A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE.

SCHOOL DISTRICT QUESTION 2
APPROVAL OF SCHOOL BUILDING BONDS

If School District Question 1 is approved, shall the school board of Independent School District No. 414 (Minneota Public Schools), Minnesota, be authorized to issue general obligation school building bonds in an amount not to exceed \$9,610,000 to provide funds for the acquisition and betterment of school sites and facilities including, but not limited to, converting the existing weight room into a choir room, converting the existing choir room into a fine arts space, converting the existing wrestling room into a weight room, construction of a multipurpose room including storage, reconfigure the existing kitchen, construction of a new cafeteria/practice gym, restrooms and storage?

BY VOTING "YES" ON THIS BALLOT QUESTION,
YOU ARE VOTING FOR A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE.

The precincts and polling places and voting hours at those polling places for this special election shall be the same as those for the state primary election.

Any eligible voter residing in the School District may vote at said election at the polling place designated for the precinct in which they reside.

A voter must be registered to vote to be eligible to vote in this special election. An unregistered individual may register to vote at the polling places on election day.

Dated: July 22, 2026
/s/ Martin Hennen, Clerk

BY ORDER OF THE SCHOOL BOARD

This Day in History - July 23

- 1829 - William Austin Burt receives a patent for his "typographer," a forerunner of the type-writer.
- 1885 - Ulysses S. Grant, the 18th president of the United States, dies in Mount McGregor, N.Y., at age 63.
- 1914 - Austria-Hungary presents a list of demands to Serbia following the killing of Archduke Franz Ferdinand by a Serb assassin; Serbia's refusal to agree to the entire ultimatum leads to the outbreak of World War I.
- 1962 - The first public TV transmissions over Telstar 1 take place during a special program featuring live shots beamed from the United States to Europe, and vice versa.
- 1967 - The first of five days of deadly rioting erupts in Detroit as an early morning police raid on an unlicensed bar results in a confrontation with local residents that escalates into violence that spreads into other parts of the city; 43 people, mostly Black people, are killed.
- 1977 - A jury in Washington, D.C., convicts 12 Hanafi Muslims of charges stemming from the hostage siege at three buildings the previous March.
- 1984 - Vanessa Williams becomes the first Miss America to resign her title after nude photographs of her taken in 1982 are published in Penthouse magazine.
- 1990 - President George H.W. Bush announces his choice of Judge David Souter of New Hampshire to succeed the retiring Justice William J. Brennan on the U.S. Supreme Court.
- 1996 - At the Atlanta Olympics, Kerri Strug makes a heroic final vault, despite torn ligaments in her left ankle as the U.S. women gymnasts clinch their first-ever Olympic team gold medal.
- 1997 - The search for Andrew Gynanan, the suspected killer of designer Gianni Versace and others, ends as police find his body on a houseboat in Miami Beach; it's an apparent suicide.
- 1999 - Space shuttle Columbia blasts off with the world's most powerful X-ray telescope and Eileen Collins, the first woman to command a U.S. space flight.
- 2001 - Pope John Paul II urges President George W. Bush in their first meeting, held at Castel Gandolfo, Italy, to bar creation of human embryos for medical research.
- 2003 - A new audiotape purported to be from toppled dictator Saddam Hussein calls on Iraqis to resist the U.S. occupation.
- 2003 - Massachusetts' attorney general issues a report saying clergy members and others in the Boston Archdiocese probably had sexually abused more than 1,000 people over a period of six decades.
- 2011 - Singer Amy Winehouse, 27, is found dead in her London home from accidental alcohol poisoning.
- 2019 - The Senate overwhelmingly passes a bipartisan bill to ensure a victims' compensation fund related to the Sept. 11 attacks never runs out of money, fulfilling a pledge made by President Trump and ending years of uncertainty.



Ben Derynck, center, is congratulaed by runner-up Jake Wagner, left, and third-place finisher Bryan Francis after they completed the third round of the tournament Sndy at Countryside Golf Club. Mascot photo by Scott Thoma

Golf Continued from Page 1

Rachel Halvorson, a five-time entrant and two-time state high school golf champion from Madison (Lac qui Parle Valley High School) captured the women's title after finishing third here last summer.

She shot 38-37—74 to win by three shots over Alyssa Swedzinski, who shot 39-38—77. Heidi Guttormsson and Natalie Bohnert tied for third with an 81.

"I didn't have any penalty shots and was hitting the ball pretty well all day," said Halvorson, a 2024 Augustana College graduate and now an accountant in Sioux Falls. "I was at a wedding in Bookings yesterday and got here late. Other than a little putting, I didn't have time to warm up. Maybe that helped."

Last year's women's champion, Lindsey Lund of Dawson, did not return to defend her title.

Ron Labat, a Minneota native now living in Marshall, played in his 54th Wynston Boe tournament and shot 99 for 18 holes, finishing third in the Senior Flight.

Other flight winners were: Ben Ramker, President's Flight; Mike Guimond, First Flight; Chip Menke, Second Flight; Josh Bednarek, Third Flight; Jeremy Blackie, Fourth Flight; and Mike Buseth, Senior Flight.

Beth Brewers, who was in charge of the scorer's tent for nearly 40 years, passed away earlier this year. She was memorialized with a large banner outside the tent at this tournament, much like the large banner of Wynston Boe that is displayed on the deck railing outside the clubhouse.

CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT

Ben Derynck.....	38-32-36—106
Jake Wagner.....	37-37-38—112
Bryan Francis.....	39-38-37—114
Taylor Olsen.....	38-39-39—116
Collin Swedzinski.....	41-40-37—118
Charlie Seitzer.....	41-43-35—119
Zac Corbin.....	41-39-42—122
Jack Abrahamson.....	40-42-42—124
Chris Stevens.....	38-41-47—126

PRESIDENT'S FLIGHT (Top 5)

Ben Ramker.....	36-39-38—113
Jason Schafer.....	39-41-37—117
David Kockelman.....	36-41-41—118
Duane Kockelmn.....	41-37-41—119
Zab Prairie.....	41-45-40—120

FIRST FLIGHT (Top 5)

Mike Guimond.....	42-43-40—125
Brock Smith.....	39-42-46—127
Adam Josephson.....	46-43-39—128
Travis Christianson.....	44-42-43—129
Norm DePestel.....	45-40-45—130
Nathan Huzz.....	42-45-43—130

WOMEN'S FLIGHT

Rachel Halvorson.....	38-36—74
Alyssa Swedzinski.....	39-38—77
Heidi Guttormsson.....	40-41—81
Natalie Bohnert.....	42-39—81
Molly Halvorson.....	42-47—89
Brandy Becker.....	44-48—92
Sarah Halvorson.....	52-44—96
Karen Jorenby.....	51-49—100



Beth Brewers, who managed the scorer's tent for over 30 yars during the Wynston Boe Tournament each summer, passed away earlier this year and was memorialized with this banner outside the tent on Sunday. Mascot photo by Scott Thoma